****

**Dolce and the Couture’s**

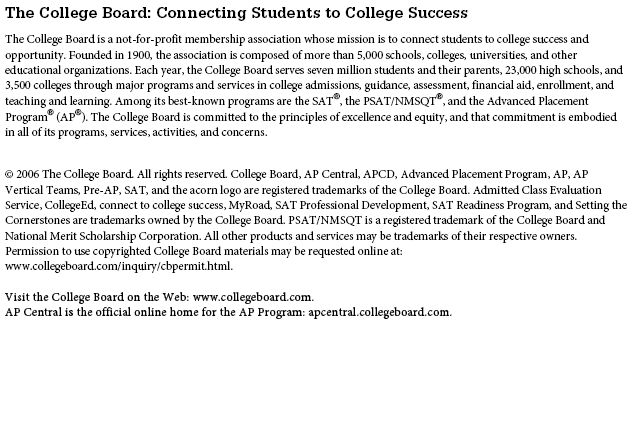
**Created In April 2011 by:**

**Central Organizer:** Deborah Occident

**Multiple Choice Coordinator:** Caitlin Morris

**Short Answer Coordinator:** Collins Nai

**Answer Key Coordinator:** Megan Sharp



**UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

**Section I: Multiple Choice**

**60 Questions**

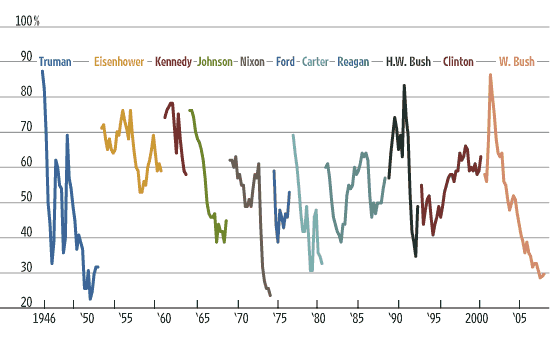
**Time- 45 Minutes**

1. Americans seem to agree that the exercise of political power at any level is legitimate only if, in some sense, it is
   1. systematic.
   2. democratic.
   3. bipartisan.
   4. partisan.
   5. traditional.
2. The colonist’s new vision of government insisted that
   1. the executive branch be superior to the legislative branch.
   2. the judicial branch be superior to the legislative branch.
   3. the branches of government be unified.
   4. each branch of government be equal.
   5. the legislative branch be superior to the executive branch.
3. Under the Articles, Congress had the power to
   1. make peace.
   2. coin money.
   3. appoint key army officers.
   4. run the post office.
   5. all of the above.
4. Shays’s Rebellion stirred the fears of some that state governments were
   1. becoming too powerful.
   2. about to collapse.
   3. controlled by British interests.
   4. opposed to liberty.
   5. seeking independence.
5. The philosophy of John Locke strongly supported the idea that
   1. government ought to be limited.
   2. property rights should be subordinated to human rights.
   3. the state of nature was without flaw.
   4. reason is an inadequate guide in establishing a political order.
   5. equality of goods and income is necessary to political order.
6. All of the following statements regarding the amendment process are correct *except* 
   1. amendments can only be proposed by the Senate.
   2. Congress can call a National Convention at the request of two-thirds of the states.
   3. amendments must be ratified by three-fourths of the states.
   4. states may ratify amendments through their legislatures or special ratifying conventions.
   5. almost all amendments to date have been proposed by Congress and ratified by state legislatures.
7. Which of the following liberties was included in the Constitution before the Bill of Rights was added?
   1. *Habeas corpus.*
   2. Freedom of speech.
   3. Right to petition the government for redress of grievances.
   4. Right to bear arms.
   5. Protection from double jeopardy.
8. Today’s effort to scale back the size and activities of the national government and shift responsibilities back to the states has become known as
   1. devolution.
   2. anti-federalism.
   3. reverse-federalism.
   4. statism.
   5. repatriation.
9. Block grants and revenue sharing were efforts to
   1. ensure that state spending was sensitive to federal policies and goals.
   2. reverse trends by allowing states and localities freedom to spend money as they wished.
   3. increase the dependency of state governments on federal money.
   4. accelerate states spending in areas long ignored by Congress.
   5. increase “strings” on money given to state and local officials.
10. Compared with Americans, the Japanese are more likely to
    1. emphasize the virtues of individualism and competition in social relations.
    2. reach decisions through discussion rather than the application of rules.
    3. emphasize the virtue of treating others fairly but impersonally, with due regard for their rights.
    4. see conflict as a means of getting to know and understand the psyche of other people.
    5. rely on individual decision-making rather than decisions made by groups.
11. Which of the following statements about class-consciousness in America is *accurate*?
    1. It has been relatively unimportant.
    2. It has had a powerful effect upon attitudes.
    3. It is particularly salient among the unemployed.
    4. It implies an ideology of class struggle.
    5. It steers the campaigns of most presidential candidates.
12. Research indicates over half of children identify with the partisan preferences of at least one of their parents by the time they are
    1. in the first grade.
    2. in the fifth grade.
    3. juniors in high school.
    4. seniors in high school.
    5. high school graduates
13. Students attending more prestigious or selective colleges are more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than the general population.
    1. liberal
    2. conservative
    3. Democratic
    4. Republican
    5. moderate
14. At the time the Constitution was ratified, voting was limited to
    1. most white males.
    2. most males.
    3. property owners or taxpayers.
    4. the commercial class.
    5. farmers.
15. Those who are inactive in politics tend to
    1. have lower levels of education.
    2. have lower levels of incomes.
    3. be relatively young.
    4. all of the above.
    5. be extremely liberal or conservative.
16. Studies show that feelings of distrust toward political leaders have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ effect on voter turnout.
    1. a stimulating
    2. a depressing
    3. an impressive
    4. no
    5. an unpredictable
17. A major difference between presidential and congressional campaigns is that
    1. more people vote in congressional elections.
    2. presidential races are generally less competitive.
    3. presidential candidates can more credibly take credit for improvements in a district.
    4. presidential incumbents can better provide services for their constituents.
    5. congressional incumbents can more easily duck responsibility.
18. Which statement about the so-called “sophomore surge” is *correct*?
    1. It has been around since the 1940s.
    2. It usually means an 8 to 10 percent increase in votes.
    3. It benefits members of the Senate more than members of the House.
    4. It does not benefit members of the Senate at all.
    5. It is the result of an increase in trust of the federal government.
19. The Mugwumps were
    1. a political branch of the American Legion.
    2. a faction of the Republican party.
    3. the forerunners of the Ku Klux Klan.
    4. an activist Indian tribe.
    5. Louisiana tobacco farmers who held land near the coast.
20. As a result of changes made by the parties in the 1960s and 1970s, the Democrats have become more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the Republican Party has become more \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
    1. libertarian … liberal
    2. factionalized … bureaucratized
    3. unified … people-oriented
    4. traditional … modern
    5. organized … popular
21. The formulas for apportioning delegates to the national party conventions are such that the Democrats give extra delegates to \_\_\_\_\_\_ states and the Republicans give extra delegates to states that are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
    1. small … large
    2. Midwestern … heavily populated
    3. large … loyal
    4. Southern … heavily contested
    5. conservative … liberal
22. Americans are less likely than the British to join
    1. labor unions.
    2. social organizations.
    3. business organizations.
    4. veteran organizations.
    5. professional organizations.
23. The single most important “tactic” of an interest group is the ability to
    1. provide credible information.
    2. smooth over ideological differences.
    3. mask partisan loyalties.
    4. publicize the decision-making process.
    5. persuade through the use of litigation.
24. Which statement is *incorrect*?
    1. Nobody really knows whether the groups that win federal grants and contracts are doing a good job or not.
    2. The organizations that receive the lion’s share of grants and contracts are frequently audited and evaluated.
    3. The list of top discretionary grant recipients generally looks the same from year to year.
    4. The organizations that administer social services funded by Washington are typically large.
    5. Ronald Reagan attempted to cut back on federal funds going to nonprofit groups that supposedly lobbied for liberal causes.
25. Politicians have become more heavily dependent on the media as
    1. the public has become better educated.
    2. the federal bureaucracy has enlarged itself.
    3. public affairs have become much more complex.
    4. the scope of government has expanded.
    5. political party organizations have declined.
26. The invention of radio was a politically important media development because it
    1. allowed public officials to reach the public in a less-filtered manner.
    2. gave rise to the era of mass politics and a large electorate.
    3. rendered image more important than substance in seeking political office.
    4. more than doubled the number of persons who followed politics with interest.
    5. reinforced the influence of political parties when it was first introduced.
27. Since the 1980s, studies of media bias have reached the same conclusion, that members of the national press are
    1. more liberal than the average member of the public.
    2. more conservative than the average member of the public.
    3. more moderate than the average member of the public.
    4. generally objective, and without political bias.
    5. without noticeable, systematic bias.
28. The Framers saw no need for a bill of rights because
    1. in their view, civil liberties were a matter for the states, not for the federal government.
    2. they were convinced that in a democratic republic, public opinion was a sufficient protection.
    3. no one bothered to even bring up the topic at the Convention.
    4. they assumed that the federal government could not do things that it was not explicitly authorized to do.
    5. their chief concern was protecting public order, not guaranteeing rights.
29. The Jeffersonian Republicans believed that the press
    1. should be free from governmental controls.
    2. should be free from governmental controls except when the nation is at war.
    3. should be punished by the federal government for slander and defamation.
    4. could be punished by federal courts but only when malice was shown.
    5. could be punished by the states for slander and defamation.
30. *Libel* is defined as
    1. stating something untrue about another person.
    2. writing something false about someone without their knowledge.
    3. an oral statement defaming another person.
    4. a written statement defaming another person.
    5. maliciously intending to defame a public official.
31. In 1954, the Supreme Court ruled that segregation in public schools was “inherently unequal” on the basis of
    1. the fact that black children were not achieving success academically.
    2. the Equal Protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.
    3. apparent psychological harm done to black children in separate schools.
    4. inadequate expenditures on black education.
    5. a philosophical understanding of the essentials of equality.
32. The Court has generally used the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ standard in cases involving gender discrimination.
    1. “strict rationality”
    2. “strict scrutiny”
    3. “substantial relationship”
    4. “suspect”
    5. “reasonableness”
33. *Roe* v. *Wade* held that the state may ban abortions
    1. in the first trimester.
    2. in the second trimester.
    3. in the third trimester.
    4. at any point in the pregnancy.
    5. in cases involving rape or incest.
34. A person ordinarily becomes a candidate for representative or senator by
    1. appealing to party leaders.
    2. serving first in the state legislature.
    3. serving in the state judiciary.
    4. running in a primary election.
    5. serving first in a government agency
35. Whereas the principal work of a parliament is debate, that of a congress is
    1. representation and action.
    2. oversight and assessment.
    3. administration.
    4. investigation and reorganization.
    5. discussion.
36. Which amendment changed the manner in which U.S. Senators are selected?
    1. Tenth.
    2. Fourteenth.
    3. Fifteenth.
    4. Seventeenth.
    5. Twenty-first.
37. The typical representative or senator is
    1. white.
    2. male.
    3. Protestant.
    4. a lawyer.
    5. all of the above.
38. The real leadership in the Senate rests with the
    1. majority leader.
    2. president pro tempore.
    3. managers.
    4. vice president.
    5. Senate whip.
39. The text suggests that closed rules, proxy voting and strong committee chairmen
    1. were desired by Democrats, but not the Republicans.
    2. were a major campaign issue in 1976.
    3. reduced the number of bills that were introduced in Congress.
    4. made it easier to get things done.
    5. enhanced the public reputation of Congress.
40. The practical advantage of the “Committee of the Whole” is that
    1. committee chairs have greater understanding of parliamentary procedure.
    2. senior members of Congress are probably more enthusiastic supporters of legislation.
    3. new members of Congress are made to feel more welcomed in chambers.
    4. it requires a much smaller number of members to hold quorum.
    5. none of the above.
41. Which of the following statements is *true* of U.S. presidents but not of British prime ministers?
    1. Presidents and the legislature often work at cross-purposes.
    2. Presidents are selected by the legislature.
    3. Presidents have more strict control over members of their party.
    4. Presidents are most often government insiders.
    5. Presidents generally choose their cabinets from among members of Congress.
42. Establishing the legitimacy of the presidency in the early years was made easier by the fact that the national government
    1. was both efficient and popular.
    2. acted cautiously because it was in debt.
    3. had relatively little to do.
    4. kept the Treasury Department weak.
    5. was dominated by one political faction.
43. Which of the following presidential powers is not a shared power?
    1. Treaty making
    2. Appointment of ambassadors
    3. Approval of legislation
    4. The pardoning power
    5. Appointment of judges and high officials
44. Which organizational structure runs the risk of isolating or misinforming the president?
    1. pyramid
    2. circular
    3. ad hoc
    4. titular
    5. vertical
45. A president suffers a stroke that leaves him or her partially paralyzed. The vice president, with the support of a majority of the cabinet, declares that the president is unable to discharge the duties of the office, but the president disagrees. What happens next?
    1. Congress decides who is president.
    2. Because the vice president has the support of a majority of the cabinet, the vice president assumes the presidency.
    3. Because the president is still alive, he or she remains president.
    4. Because the president and vice president disagree, a new election is held, allowing the people to decide who should be president.
    5. The Supreme Court decides who is president.
46. The issue of executive privilege was not directly addressed by the Supreme Court until
    1. John F. Kennedy was reported to have had dealings with organized crime.
    2. Harry Truman refused to provide testimony in regard to some controversial last minute pardons.
    3. George Bush interfered with Iran-Contra prosecutions.
    4. Richard Nixon attempted to withhold tape recordings from a special prosecutor.
    5. Gerald Ford pardoned Richard Nixon.
47. Once in office a president can expect to see his popularity
    1. increase over time.
    2. remain about the same.
    3. fluctuate in a manner that admits of no generalization.
    4. decline over time.
    5. be dependent on the actions of Congress.
48. Which statement best describes how the text of the Constitution addresses the issue of granting regulatory power to bureaucrats?
    1. It is silent on the matter.
    2. It prohibits transfer of congressional power.
    3. It allows transfer of congressional power with presidential approval.
    4. It allows transfer of congressional power during a declared war.
    5. It prohibits transfer of congressional power during a declared war.
49. The bureaucracy of American government today is largely a product of which two events?
    1. The Depression and World War II.
    2. World War I and World War II.
    3. World War II and the Korean War.
    4. The Korean War and the Vietnam War.
    5. The Vietnam War and Watergate.
50. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) tends to employ
    1. lawyers.
    2. doctors.
    3. engineers.
    4. economists.
    5. A and D.
51. The dramatic and sometimes bitter conflict surrounding some Supreme Court nominations can only be explained by the fact that
    1. there are only nine people on the Court at any given point in time.
    2. the Court plays such a large role in making public policy.
    3. the partisan balance of the Court is quite skewed.
    4. Presidents rarely seek the “advice” of the Senate.
    5. nominees are rarely qualified for the job.
52. Which of the following statements about *McCulloch* v. *Maryland* is correct?
    1. It established judicial review.
    2. It ruled a national bank unconstitutional.
    3. It restricted the scope of congressional power.
    4. It allowed states to tax federal agencies.
    5. It established the supremacy of national laws over state laws.
53. The two kinds of lower federal courts created to handle cases that need not be decided by the Supreme Court are
    1. constitutional and district.
    2. appeals and limited jurisdiction.
    3. district and appeals.
    4. appeals and legislative.
    5. constitutional and legislative.
54. If a justice agrees with the conclusion of the Court’s decision, but disagrees with the logic of the opinion of the Court, he/she would probably write a
    1. concurring opinion.
    2. majority opinion.
    3. plurality opinion.
    4. *per curiam* opinion.
    5. dissenting opinion.
55. Democrats tend to be more worried than Republicans about
    1. inflation.
    2. international politics.
    3. unemployment.
    4. business investment.
    5. recessions.
56. The \_\_\_\_\_\_ Amendment created the federal income tax.
    1. Eleventh
    2. Thirteenth
    3. Sixteenth
    4. Twenty-first
    5. Twenty-second
57. Welfare programs in which nearly everyone benefits and nearly everyone pays are characterized by
    1. overlapping politics.
    2. minoritarian politics.
    3. club-based politics.
    4. congruent politics.
    5. majoritarian politics.
58. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ government program provides medical assistance for poor people.
    1. Medicare
    2. Poverty Fund
    3. Medifund
    4. Medicaid
    5. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families
59. Which statement is *incorrect*?
    1. The president is commander in chief of the armed forces.
    2. Congress must authorize and appropriate money for our armed forces.
    3. The president appoints ambassadors, but they must be confirmed by the Senate.
    4. The president negotiates treaties but they must be ratified by a majority of the Senate.
    5. Only Congress can regulate commerce with other nations.
60. When America became a major world power after World War II,
    1. presidents began to put foreign policy at the top of the agenda.
    2. our commitments overseas expanded dramatically.
    3. presidents began to play a larger role in the implementation of foreign policy.
    4. foreign policy began to be shaped by scores of agencies with overseas activities.
    5. all of the above.

**UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

**Section II: Free Response**

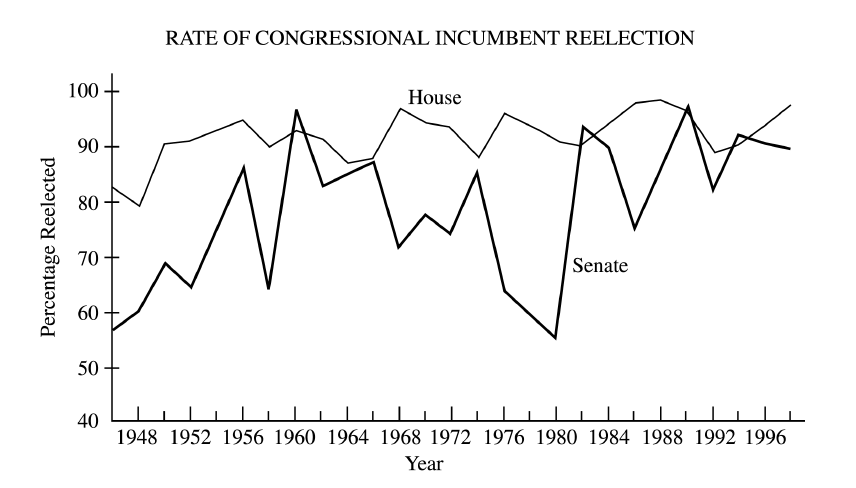
**Time- 100 Minutes**



Question 1

Carefully Evavluate the graph and answer these questions.

* Give three reasons why these Presidents approval rating might have gone down.
* From observing the graph at what point in the president’s term was his aproval rattings the highest . Give a reason why you think this.

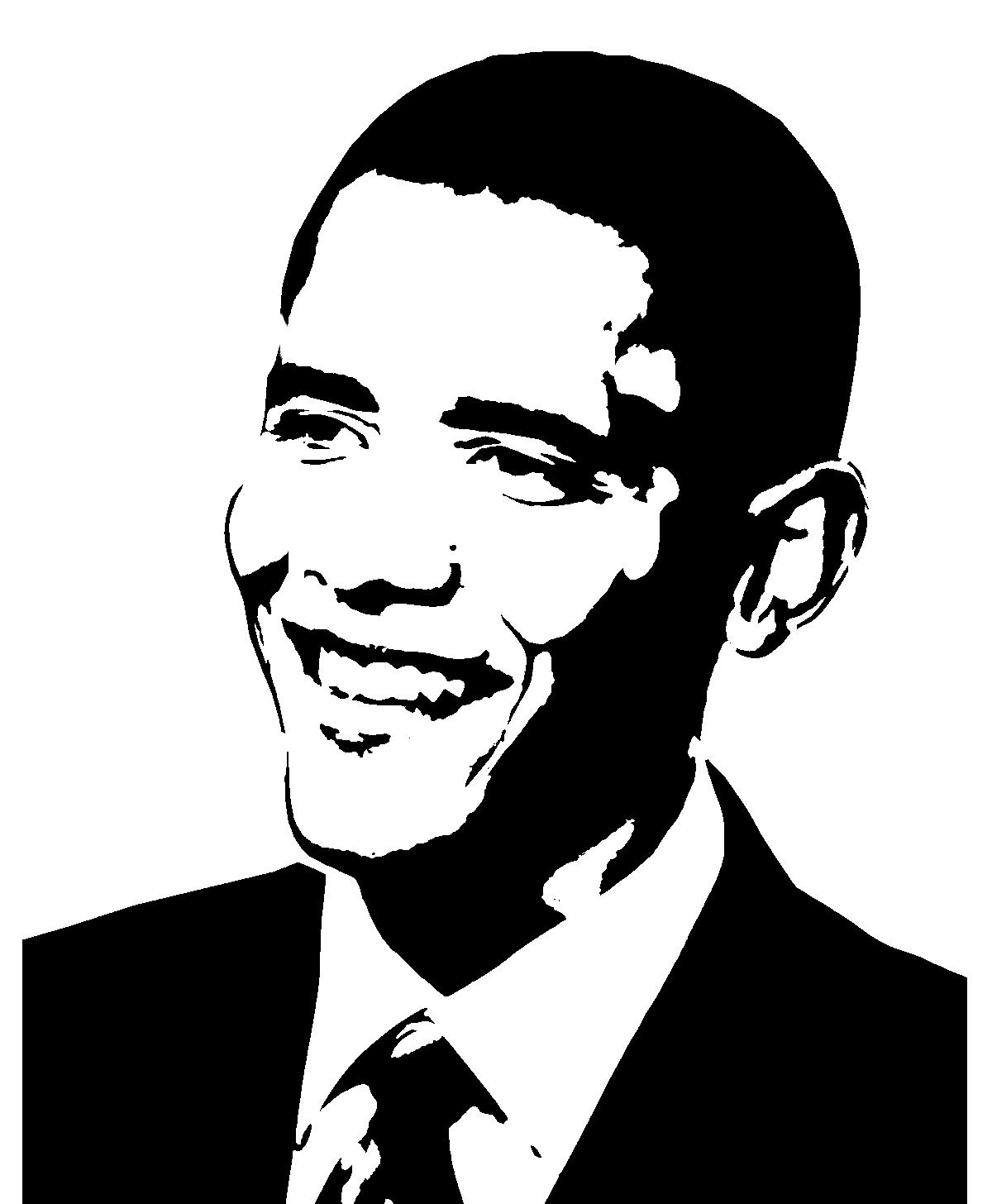


Question 2

The graph shows reelection rates for incumbents in the House and Senate. From this information and your knowledge of United States politics, perform the following tasks.

* Identify two patterns displayed in the graph
* Identify two factors that contribute to incumbency advantage. Explain how each factor contributes to incumbency advantage.
* Discuss one consequence of incumbency advantage for the United States political process.

Question 3

**** Most Americans today believe that the president controls America without any limitations, and that none tells him what he can and can’t do.

* In your opinion, why do people think this today?
* List the constitutional powers of the president.
* Compare them with the authority of Congress in foreign affairs.
* Include why it is naive to read the Constitution literally in order to determine which institution has the major responsibility to conduct foreign policy.
* Explain why the president has a larger role than the Framers intended.

Question 4

4. **1. “**We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America…**”**

Above is the Preamble of the United States Constitution.

* What does “We the People” mean in 1787 and now?
* Do you think “We the People” has changed since the Founding Fathers wrote the Constitution?
* What was the meaning and application of the preamble for every American citizen?
* In the Preamble, it says, “*establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity*”.

What does this mean for the Founding Fathers and to the people inside Washington now? Do you think that all of these things are being practiced through out our government?

**END OF EXAMINATION**